Key Issues to Look for When Reviewing IWMM Data

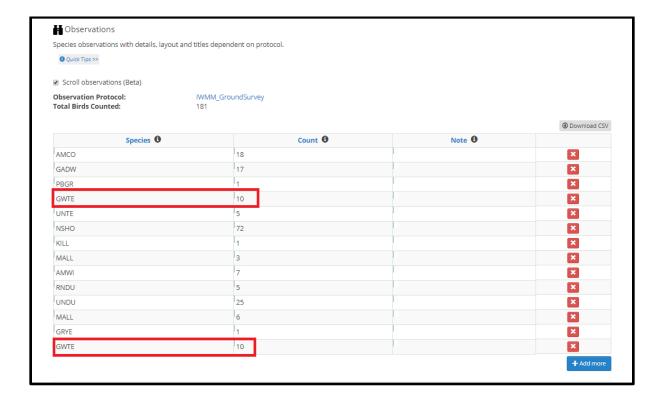
Note: Similar to an Access database, the AKN functions as a relational data information system with multiple information tables that relate by a key or set of keys. Within IWMM, this is how observation data and site condition data relate. Each are stored as individual tables, but are grouped when both the LOCATION and DATE fields match.

When creating a new 'site visit' record for the first time, a user records both observation AND site condition data at the same time. However, if the user deletes the observation record or makes a change to the date or location, they **must** make the same change to the site condition record or the two will be disassociated.

Data issues may include the following, along with recommended solutions:

1. Within one record, bird species and count are repeated on two separate lines

Solution: Either combine records into one line if applicable, or delete one instance of the species (original data sheets will be needed).

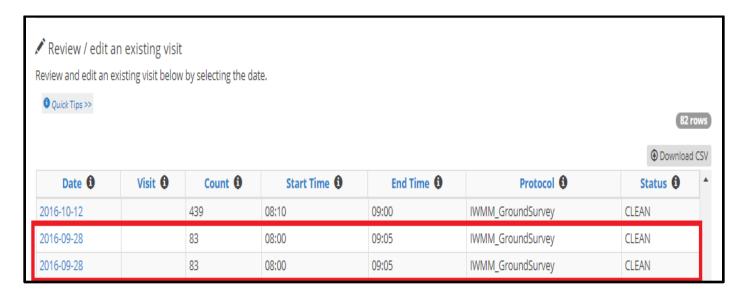


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2. Multiple surveys (visits) for the same date and location

2.1 Surveys are exact copies

Solution: Review each survey against the original data sheets. If surveys are exact duplicates, delete one instance.

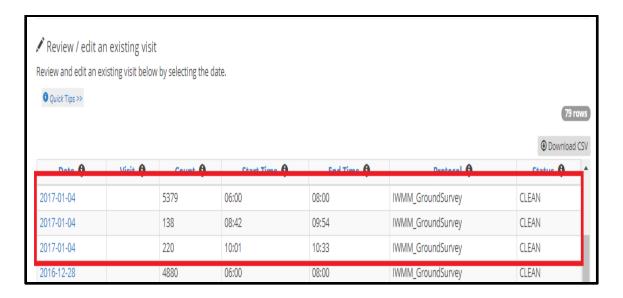


2.2 Surveys are not exact copies

Solution: Review each survey against the original data sheets and decide if one or all are correct. For the remaining survey(s), review the original data sheets to determine if they belong under a different date and/or unit location or if they should be deleted from the database.



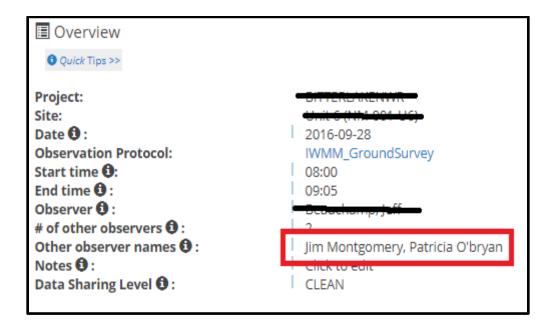
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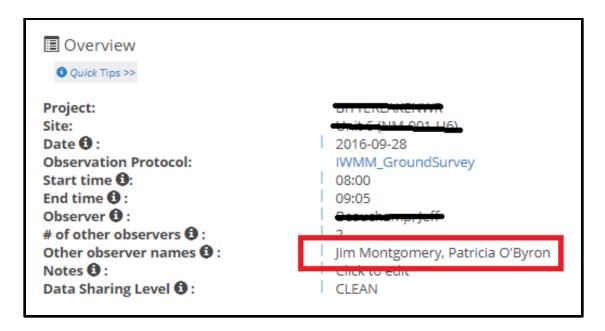
3. Misspelled or inaccurate data entries within free text fields.

Solution: Although free text fields are necessary in the database to record data, they also allow for misspellings and data errors. Be sure to check the following free text fields for errors:

- Notes
- Salinity
- Gauge level
- Number other observers
- Other observer names







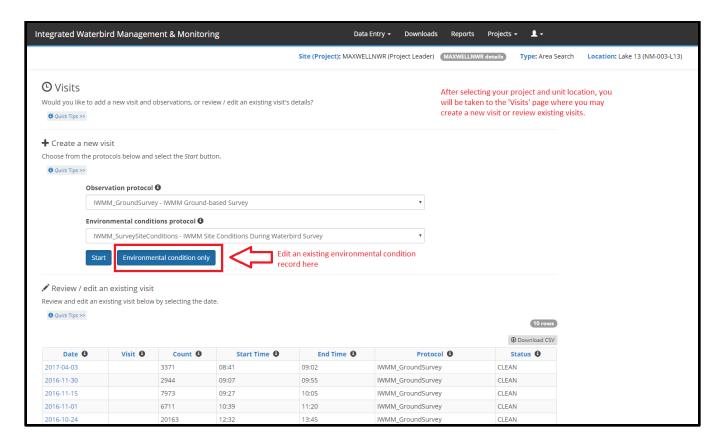
4. More than one site condition record shows up when reviewing a survey (visit)

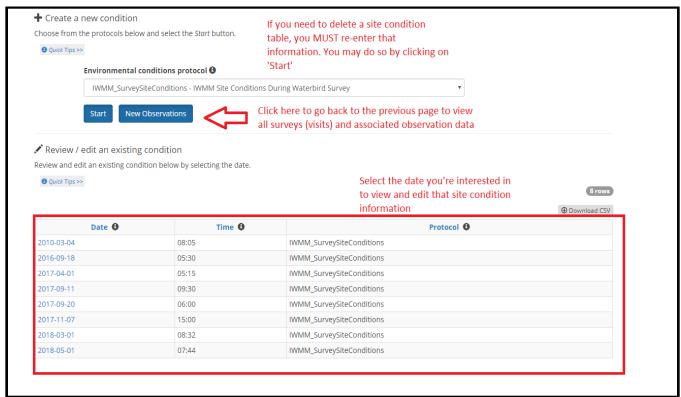
Solution: When reviewing a survey (visit) you may see more than one table for environmental site conditions. This may or may not indicate an error in the data. Review the original data sheets to confirm which site conditions are valid, or decide if one or more site condition tables need to be deleted from the database or relocated to the appropriate date and/or location. (See the screenshot below for guidance).

One explanation for multiple site condition tables per survey (visit) is that site conditions are tied to an observation record by date and location. If you have multiple surveys (visits) for the same date/location you will see all related site condition tables within each survey (visit).

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